TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES: The bill, entitled "An act making a grant public lands to the several States for the benefit of indigent insane persons," which was presented to me on the 27th ultimo, has been maturely considered, and is returned to the Senate, the house in which it originated, with a statement

house in which it originated, with a statement of the objections which have required me to withhold from it my approval.

In the performance of this duty, prescribed by the Constitution, I have been compelled to resist the deep sympathies of my own heart in favor of the humane purpose sought to be accomplished, and to overcome the reluctance with which I dissent from the conclusions of the two houses of Congress, and present my own opinions in opposition to the action of a co-ordinate branch of the government which possesses so fully my confidence and respect.

If, in presenting my objections to this bill, I should say more than strictly belongs to the measure, or is required for the discharge of my official obligation, let it be attributed to a sincere desire to justify my act before those whose good opinion I so highly value, and to that earnestness which springs from my deliberate conviction that a strict adherence to the terms and purposes of the federal compact offers the best, if not the only, security for the preserva-tion of our blessed inheritance of representa-

The bill provides in substance : First. That ten millions of acres of land be granted to the several States, to be apportioned among them in the compound ratio of the geographical area and representation of said States in the House of Representatives. Second. That wherever there are public

lands in a State, subject to sale, at the regular price of private entry, the proportion of said ten millions of acres falling to such State, shall be selected from such lands within it; and that to the States in which there are no such public lands, land-scrip shall be issued to the amount of their distributive shares re-spectively, said scrip not to be entered by said States, but to be sold by them, and subject to entry by their assignees. Provided, That none of it shall be sold at less than one dollar per acre, under penalty of forfeiture of the same to the United States.

Third. That the expenses of the management and superintendence of said lands, and of the moneys received therefrom, shall be paid by the States to which they may belong,

out of the Treasury of said States.

Fourth. That the gross proceeds of the sales of such lands, or land-scrip, so granted, shall be invested by the several States in safe stocks. to constitute a perpetual fund, the principal of which shall remain forever undiminished, and the interest to be appropriated to the mainte-nance of the indigent insane within the several

Fifth. That annual return of lands or scrip sold shall be made by the States to the Secre-tary of the Interior, and the whole grant be subject to certain conditions and limitations prescribed in the bill, to be assented to by legislative acts of said States.

This bill, therefore, proposes that the federal government shall make provision, to the amount of the value of ten millions of acres of land, for an eleemosynary object within the several States, to be administered by the political au-thority of the same; and it presents, at the threshold, the question whether any such act on the part of the federal government is war ranted and sanctioned by the Constitution, the provisions and principles of which are to be protected and sustained as a first and para-It cannot be questioned, that if Congress

have power to make provision for the indigent insane without the limits of this District, it has the same power to provide for the indigent who are not insane, and thus to transfer to the in all the States. It has the same power to provide hospitals and other local establishments for the care and cure of every species of human infirmity, and thus to assume all that duty, of either public philanthropy or public necessity, to the dependent, the orphan, the sick, or the needy, which is now discharged by the States themselves, or by corporate institutions, or private endowments, existing under the legislation of the States. The whole field of public beneficence is thrown open to the care and culture of the federal government. Generous impulses no longer encounter the limitations and control of our imperious fundamental law. For, however worthy may be the present object in itself, it is only one of a class. It is not exclusively worthy of benevolent regard. Whatever considerations dictate sympathy for this particular object, apply in like manner, if notin the same degree, to idiocy, to physical disease, to extreme destitution. If Congress may and ought to provide for any one of these objects, it may and ought to provide for them all. And, if it be done in this case, what answer shall be given, when Congress shall be called upon, as it doubtless will be, to pursue a similar course of legislation in the others? It will obviously be vain to reply that the object is worthy, but that the application has taken a wrong direction. The power will have been deliberately assumed, the general obligation will, by this act, have been acknowledged, and the question of means and expediency will alone be left for consideration. The decision upon the principle in any one case determines it for the whole class. The question presented, therefore, clearly is upon the constitutionality and propriety of the federal government assuming to enter into a novel and vast field of legislation namely—that of providing for the care and support of all those, among the people of the United States, who by any form of calamity become fit objects of public philanthrophy.

I readily, and I trust, feelingly acknowledge the duty incumbent on us all, as men and citizens, and as among the highest and holiest of our duties, to provide for those who, in the mysterious order of Providence, Constitution for making the federal government the great almoner of public charity throughout I cannot but repeat what I have before exthe United States. To do so, would, in my judgment, be contrary to the letter and spirit of the Constitution, and subversive of the whole distinct in local government one from the other, before the Revolution. By that Revolution, the colonies each became an index

ereignty as they chose to delegate to the general government. With this aim, and to this end, the fathers of the republic framed the Constitution, in and by which the independent of the United States or of any particular state." Constitution, in and by which the independent of the United States united themselves for certain specified objects and purposes, and for those only, leaving all powers not therein set forth as conferred on one or another of the shall be as valid against the United States, tain specified objects and purposes, and for those only, leaving all powers not therein set forth as conferred on one or another of the three great departments—the legislative, the executive, and the judicial—indubitably with the States. And when the people of the several States had in their State conventions, and ral States had in their State conventions, and thus alone, given effect and force to the Constitution, and, not content that any doubt should in future arise and content that any doubt should was formed and adopted. in future arise as to the scope and character of this act, they engrafted thereon the explicit declaration that "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor problem in the United States." The only hibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people," of the business of government, that involved in the social relations the internal arrangements of the body politic, the mental and moral culture of men, the development of local resources of wealth, the punishment of crimes in general, the preservation of order, the relief the needy or otherwise unfortunate members of society, did, in practice, remain with the States; that none of these objects, of local concern are by the Constitution expressly or impliedly prohibited to the States; and that none of them are, by any express language of ted States as have become or shall become the Constitution, transferred to the United members of the confederation or federal alli-States? Can it be claimed that any of these ance of the said States, Virginia included, acfunctions of local administration and legislation are vested in the federal government, by any implication? I have never found anything

Constitution which is susceptible of such a construction. No one of the enumerated powers touches the subject, or has ever a remote analogy to it. The powers conferred upon the United States have reference to federal relations, or to the means of accomplishing or executing things of federal relation. So, also, of the same character are the powers taken away from the States by enumeration. In either case, the powers granted and the powers restricted were so granted or so restricted, only where it was requisite for the maintenance of peace and harmony between the States, or for the purpose of protecting their common interests, and defending their common sovereignty against aggression from abroad, or insurrection at home.

I shall not discuss at length the question of

power sometimes claimed for the general gov-

rnment under the clause of the eighth section of the Constitution, which gives Congress the power "to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States," because if it has not already been settled upon sound reason and their market value," &c. The debts then conalready been settled upon sound reason and authority it never will be. I take the received and just construction of that article, as if written to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to provide for the common defence and general welfare. It is not a substantive general power to provide for the welfare of the United States, but is a limitation on the grant of power to raise money by taxes, duties, and imposts. If it were otherwise, all the rest of the Constitution, consisting of carefullyenumerated and cautiously-guarded grants of specific powers, would have been useless, if not It would be impossible, in that view to escape from the conclusion that these were in-serted only to mislead for the present, and, instead of enlightening and defining the pathway of the future, to involve its action in the mazes of doubtful construction. Such a conclusion the character of the men who framed that sacred instrument will never permit us to form. Indeed, to suppose it susceptible of any other construction, would be to consign all the rights of the States, and of the people of the States, to the mere discretion of Congress, and thus to clothe the federal government with authority to control the sovereign States, by which they would have been dwarfed into provinces or departments, and all sovereignty vested in an absolute consolidated central power, against which the spirit of liberty has so often, and in so many countries, struggled in vain. In my wrong you would inflict, by removing the sources of power and political action from those who are to be thereby affected. If it is as wherein it may happen to lie; as would be done by any prudent proprietor to enhance the sale-value of his private domain.

All such grants of land shall ever arrive when, for an object appealing however strongly to our sympathies, the dignity of the States shall bow to the dictation of Congress, by conforming their legislation thereto. when the power, and majesty, and honor, of those who created shall become subordinate to the thing of their creation, I but feebly utter my apprehensions when I express my firm conviction that we shall see "the beginning of

the end." Fortunately, we are not left in doubt as to he purposes of the Constitution, any more than as to its express language; for although the history of its formation, as recorded in the Madison papers, shows that the federal government, in its present form, emerged from the conflict of opposing influences, which have continued to divide statesmen from that day to of strict construction presided over the actual conclusion and subsequent adoption of the Constitution. President Madison, in the "Federalist," says: "The powers delegated by the proposed Constitution are few and defined. Those which are to remain in the State government are numerous and indefinite. Its [the general government's] jurisdiction extends ertain enumerated objects only, and leaves to the several States a residuary and inviolable overeignty over all other objects."

In the same spirit, President Jefferson in vokes "the support of the State governments in all their rights, as the most competent administrations for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwarks against anti-republican tendeneies." And President Jackson said that our true strength and wisdom are not promoted by invasions of the rights and powers of the several States, but that, on the contrary, they consist, "not in binding the States more closely to the centre, but in leaving each more unob structed in its proper orbit.'

The framers of the Constitution, in refusing confer on the federal government any jurisliction over these purely local objects, in my judgment, manifested a wise forecast and broad comprehension of the true interests of these objects themselves. It is clear that public charities within the States can be efficiently adwho, in the mysterious order of Providence, are subject to want, and to disease of body or mind; but I cannot find any authority in the the funds it provides to the administration of

pressed, that if the several States-many of which have already laid the foundation of munificent establishments of local beneficence, and nearly theory upon which the union of these States all of which are proceeding to establish themis founded. And if it were admissible to con-template the exercise of this power for any ob-ject whatever, I cannot avoid the belief that it would in the end be prejudicial, rather than of charity will be dried up at home; and the beneficial, to the noble offices of charity to have several States, instead of bestowing their own the charge of them transferred from the States means on the social wants of their own people, to the federal government. Are we not too may themselves, through the strong temptation prone to forget that the federal Union is the which appeals to States as to individuals, becreature of the States, not they of the federal come humble suppliants for the bounty of the

tion, the colonies each became an independent the powers conferred by the eighth section of State. They achieved that independence, and the first article of the Constitution, I deem it secured its recognition, by the agency of a proper to call attention to the third section of consulting body, which from being an assembly the fourth article, and to the provisions of the of the ministers of distinct sovereignties, instructed to agree to no form of government tion under consideration, which, instead of aid-which did not leave the domestic concerns of ing the claim to power, exercised in this case, which did not leave the domestic concerns of each State to itself was appropriately denominated a Congress. When having tried the experiment of the confederation, they resolved to change that for the present federal Union, and thus to confer on the federal government more thus to confer on the federal government more gress shall have power to dispose of and make the confederation. If they are unless that they are they a

under this Constitution, as under the confedera-tion." For a correct understanding of the terms used in the third section of the fourth article, on, in convention, on the 17th September, 1787, territory then belonging to the United States was that then recently ceded by the several States, to wit, by New York in 1781, by Vir-

ginia in 1784, by Massachusetts in 1785, and by South Carolina in August, 1781, only the month before the formation of the Constitution The cession from Virginia contained the following provision: "That all the lands within the territory so ceded to the United States and not reserved for or appropriated to any of the before-mentioned purposes, or disposed of in bounties to the officers and soldiers of the American army, shall be considered a common cording to their usual respective proportions in the general charge and expenditure, and shall be faithfully and bona fide disposed of for that purpose, and for no other use or purpose whatsoever." Here the object for which these ands are to be disposed of is clearly set forth, and the power to dispose of them granted by the third section of the fourth article of the Constitution clearly contemplates such disposition only If such be the fact, and in my mind there can be no doubt of it, then you have again not only no implication in favor of the contemplated grant, but the strongest authority against it. faith of the government, pledged in the act of January 28, 1847. The nineteenth section of that act declares: "That for the payment of the stock, which may be created under the pro-visions of this act, the sales of the public lands are hereby pledged; and it is hereby made the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to use and apply all moneys, which may be received into the Treasury for the sales of the public lands, after the first day of January, 1848, first, to pay the interest on all stocks issued by virtue of this act; and secondly, to use the bal-

need comment. I have been unable to discover any distinct tion, on constitutional grounds, or grounds of expediency, between an appropriation of ten millions of dollars, directly from the money in the Treasury, for the object contemplated, and the appropriation of lands presented for my sanction; and yet I cannot do ubt, that if the bill proposed ten millions of dollars from the of the United States, for the support of the indigent insane in the several States that the constitutional question involved in the act would have attracted forcibly the attention of Congress.

tracted have not been liquidated, and the lan-

guage of this section, and the obligations of

the United States under it, are too plain to

I respectfully submit that, in a constitutional point of view, it is wholly immaterial whether the appropriation be in money or in land.

The public domain is the common propert of the Union, just as much as the surplus proceeds of that, and of duties on imports remain ing unexpended in the treasury. As such, it has been pledged, is now pledged, and may need to be so pledged again for public indebt-

As property it is distinguished from actual money chiefly in this respect, that its profitable management sometimes requires that portions of it be appropriated to local objects in

no precedent or constitutional reason for giving away the public lands. Still less do they give sanction to appropriations for objects which have not been entrusted to the federal government, and therefore belong exclusively to the States.

To assume that the public lands are appli cable to ordinary State objects, whether of pub lic structures, police, charity, or expenses of State administration, would be to disregard the amount of the value of the public lands, all the limitations of the Constitution, and confound to that extent all distinctions between the rights and powers of the States and those of the United States. For if the public lands may be applied to the support of the poor, whether same or insane; if the disposal of then and their proceeds be not subject to the ordi this, yet the rule of clearly defined powers and | nary limitations of the Constitution, then Con gress possesses unqualified power to provide for expenditures in the States by means of the public lands, even to the degree of defraying the salaries of governors, judges, and all other expenses of the government and internal adinistration within the several States.

The conclusion, from the general survey of the whole subject, is to my mind irresistible, and closes the question both of right and of expediency, so far as regards the principle of the appropriation proposed in this bill. Would not the admission of such a power in Congress to dispose of the public domain, work the practical abrogation of some of the most important provisions of the Constitution?

If the systematic reservation of a definite portion of the public lands, (the sixteenth sections,) in the States, for the purposes of educa tion, and occasional grants for similar purposes be cited as contradicting these conclusions, the answer, as it appears to me, is obvious and satisfactory. Such reservations and grants, besides being a part of the conditions on which the proprietary right of the United States is maintained along with the eminent domain of a particular State, and by which the public and remains free from taxation in the State in which it lies, as long as it remains the property of the United States, are the acts of a land owner disposing of a small share of his property in a way to augment the value of the residue, and in this mode to encourage the early occupation of it by the industrious and intelligent pioneer.

The great example of apparent donation of lands to the States, likely to be relied upon as sustaining the principles of this bill, is the relinquishment of swamp lands to the States in which they are situated; but this also, like other grants already referred to, was based expressly upon grounds clearly distinguishable in prin-ciple from any which can be assumed for the bill herewith returned, viz., upon the interest and duty of the proprietor. They were charged, and not without reason, to be a nuisance to the inhabitants of the surrounding country. The measure was predicated, not only upon the ground of the disease inflicted upon the people of the States, which the United States could not justify as a just and honest proprietor, but also upon an express limitation of the application of the proceeds, in the first instance, to purposes of levees and drains, thus protecting the health of the inhabitants, and, at the same time, enhancing the value of the remaining lands belonging to the general government.

It is not to be denied that Congress, while

ample authority, they scrupulously measured such of the functions of their cherished sov-

Territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution bill; and those examples will. in my opinion. bill; and those examples will, in my opinion serve rather as a warning, than as an induce

ment to tread in the same path.

The first is the act of March 3d, 1819, granting a township of land to the Connecticut asylum for the education of the deaf and dumb; the second that of April 5th, 1826, making a similar grant of land to the Kentucky asylum, for teaching the deaf and dumb—the first, more than thirty years after the adoption of the Constitution, and the second more than a quarter of a century ago. These acts were unimportant as to the amount ap propriated, and, so far as I can acertain, were passed on two grounds: first, that the object was a charitable one; and, secondly, that it was national. To say that it was a charitatable object, is only to say that it was an object of expenditure, proper for the competent authority; but it no more tended to show that it was a proper object of expenditure by the United States than is any other purely local object appealing to the best sympathies of the human heart in any of the States. And the suggestion that a school for the mental culture of the deaf and dumb in Connecticut, or Kentucky, is a national object, only shows how loosely this expression has been used, when the purpose was to procure appropriations by Congress. It is not perceived how a school of this character is otherwise national than is any establishment of religious or moral instruction. All the pursuits of industry, every-thing which promotes the material or intellec-tual well-being of the race, every ear of corn or boll of cotton which grows is national in the same sense, for each one of these things goes to swell the aggregate of national prosper-ity and happiness of the United States; but it confounds all meaning of language to say that these things are "national" as equivalent to federal," so as to come within any of the classes of appropriation for which Congress is author ized by the Constitution to legislate.

It is a marked point of the history of the Constitution that, when it was proposed to em-

power Congress to establish a university, the proposition was confined to the District intended for the future seat of government of the United States, and that even that proposed clause was omitted in consideration of the exclusive powers conferred on Congress to legislate for that District. Could a more decisive indication of the true construction and the spirit of the Con-stitution, in regard to all matters of this nature, have been given? It proves that such objects were considered by the convention as appertaining to local legislation only that they were not comprehended, either expressly or by im-plication, in the grant of general power to Con-gress, and that consequently they remained with the several States.

The general result at which I have arrived is the necessary consequence of those views of the relative rights, powers, and duties of the States and of the federal government, which I have long entertained and often expressed,

and in reference to which my convictions do but increase in force with time and experience. I have thus discharged the unwelcome duty of respectfully stating my objections to this bill, with which I cheerfully submit the whole subject to the wisdom of Congress.
FRANKLIN PIERCE.

WASHINGTON, May 3, 1854.

Latest from Council Bluffs .- The Council

Bluffs Bugle, of April 18, says:
"The delegation of Omahas, and Otees, who visited Washington with Major Gatewood, have just returned home; and as the treaties were not ratified by the Senate, and are indefinitely postponed, the Indians are not in the most pleasant mood, not knowing whether to prepare for re-moval or fer the crops and hunt. This is a seri-ous dilemma for the savages, as they have no alternative to their course of operation, work in time or steal and starve. Major Gatewood has not yet returned, but is looked for in a few days, when ne will give the full particulars.

Boyhood of Distinguished Men. - Dryden displayed no evicence of more than ordinary intel-igence until be reached mature manhood; and Jehnson said of Goldsmith that he was "a plant that flowered late." Schiller was a very idle scholar, and much fonder of ball and leaping than of books. The most interesting thing told of him as a child by his biographer is, that once, in the midst of a storm of thunder and lightning, he climbed a tree, and when asked by his parents why he did very beautiful, and he wished to see where it was coming from." This story, if correct, furnishes an illustration of the manner in which the young mind delights to seek information for itself in its This story, if correct, furnishes an ecdote is that told of Smeaton, the architect of the Eddystone light house, who, when a boy in petti-

Eddystone light house, who, when a boy in petticoats, was one day discovered on the top of his
father's house, in the act of fixing the model of a
wind-mill, which he had constructed.

The great majority of the most distinguished
men, especially of those distinguished for their
power, have been altogether undistinguished in
their boyhood. Sir Isaac Newton, perhaps the greatest man, stood very low in his class at school, though he was fond of mechanical pursuits, and of drawing various natural objects. Sir David Brewster says of him, that "when he arrived at Trinity college, he brought with him a more slender portion of science than falls to the lot of ordi-nary scholars; but this state of his acquirements, was perhaps not unfavorable to the development of his mental powers. Unexhausted by premature growth, and invigorated by healthful repose, his mind was the better fitted to make those vigorous and rapid shoots which soon covered with foliage and fruit the genial soil to which it had been trans-

erred."
Sir Humphrey Davy said of himself: "I con sider it fortunate that I was left so much to myself when a child, and put upon no particular plan of study; and that I enjoyed so much idleness at Mr. Coryton's school. I perhaps owe to these circumstances the little talents that I have, and circumstances the little talents that I have, and their peculiar application. What I am I have made myself. I say this without vanity, and in pure simplicity of heart." And it is so in fact. Every man who achieves greatness does so, not through his acquirements under teachers when a boy, but through his self-education after he has

become a man.

We might adduce an immense number of instances of positively stupid boys who have become distinguished and highly useful men. For instance Isaac Barrow, the great divine, was in his boy hood chiefly distinguished by his propensity for hood chiefly distinguished by his propensity for fighting, in which he got many a bloody nose; and his father used to say that, if it pleased God to take from him any of his children, he hoped it might be Isaac, who was the least promising of them all. And that prodigy of learning, Dr. Adam Clark, when a boy, was never happier than when "rolling large stone about," caring nothing for learning or reading of any sort. But at this kind of work he became "uncommonly hardy," though his father psoclaimed him to be a most "grievous dunce." Thanks to Adam Clark's power of rolling about the large stone in his boyhood, he was afterwards able to roll about large thoughts in his manbood.

Napoleen and Wellington were both dull boys Napoleon and Wellington were both dull boys. The former is described by the Duchess d'Abrantes, who knew him intimately when a child, as "having good health, and in other respects he was like other boys." And she adds: "My uncles have a thousand times assured me that Napoleon, in his boyhood, had none of that singularity of character attributed to him."

They have some queer jurymen in Iowa A few days since an old toper died rather sud-denly. The coroner, in consequence, held an inquest, listened to the testimony of a physician, and was about rendering a verdict "water on the brain," when Mr. Slocum Hepplepodis riz to ob ject. "Mr. Coroner, I have known the deceased for ten mortal years, and I know he has never seen a sober moment in all that time. To say that such a man can die of "water on the brain, is therefore d-d nonsense. It can't be did Cause why? He never took any into his system The true verdict, Mr. Ceroner, should be gin rum, or brandy on the brain; but, as I am willing to split the difference, I compromise, and bring in a verdict as follows: "Died from the effects of brandy and water on the brain." The compromise was agreed to, and the verdict is a part and parcel of the recorded doings of Iowa.

Pennsylvania is the head-quarters of the doctors and druggists. She rejoices in one thousand six hundred apothecaries, a fourth part of all in the United Section 1

Congressional.

THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS. FIRST SESSION.

Senate .- Wednesday, May 3, 1854.

After petitions, On motion by Mr. BRIGHT,

On motion by Mr. BRIGHT,

Rezolecd, That the 30th rule of the Senate be amended
by striking outcertain words, so that it will read as follows:

"No amendment proposing additional appropriations
shall be received to any general appropriation bill, unless
it be made to carry out the provisions of some existing
law, or some act or resolution previously passed by the
Senate, during that session, or moved by direction of a
standing committee of the Senate, or in pursuance of an
estimate from the head of some of the departments; and
no amendment shall be received, whose object is to provide for a private claim, unless it be to carry out the provisions of an existing law or a treaty stipulation." BILLS REPORTED.

Mr. BUTLER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported back the bill from the House to repeal part of an act entitled "An act to provide for the safe-keeping of the acts, records, and seal of the United States, and for other purposes."

Also from the same committee, the bill to pro-Also from the same committee, the bill to provide for the construction of a suitable building for the accommodation of the district court of the United States at Key West.

Mr. PETTIT, from the same committee, to which

Mr. PETTIT, from the same committee, to which was referred the resolution of the Senate inquiring into the expediency of appointing a commission to revise the public statutes of the United States, to simplify their language, to correct their incongruities, to supply their deficiencies, arrange them in order, and reduce them to one connected text, reported that legislation was unnecessary on the subject, and therefore asked to be discharged om the further consideration of said resolution.

Mr. BRODHEAD introduced a bill for the reef of Jonas P. Levy and Jose Maria Jarrero, to pay the amount of their claims which were rejected by the late board of commissioners to ex-

INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the Indian appropriation bill.

Mr. WALKER moved to add to the bill an appropriation of the bill and appropriate the senate of the bill appropriate the bill appropriate the senate of the bill appropriate the senate of the bill appropriate the bill app mr. WALKER moved to add to the bill an appropriation of \$500,000 for the payment of eighnilions of acres of land taken from the friendly Creek Indians without compensation by the treaty of capitulation of Fort Jackson, in 1814.

of capitulation of Fort Jackson, in 1814.

Mr. W. addressed the Senate for some time in support of the amendment, when a message was received from the President of the United States returning the bill granting land for the relief of the indigent insane, with this objection thereto. The appropriation bill was then postponed, and the

essage was rend. [The message will be found in another part o

no-day's Sentinel.]
Mr. FOOT moved that the message be entered upon the journal, be printed, and laid on the table. Argeed to.
Mr. HUNTER moved that 10,000 additiona opies of the message be printed for the use

Upon this motion a debate ensued, in which Messrs. Brown, Foot, Dixon, Bell, and Jones, of Tennessee, sustained the bill, and controverted the soundness of the objections to it stated in the message, and Messrs. HUNTER, TOOMBS, BUTLER Douglas, Weller, and Bayard, sustained and vindicated the President in his veto. Without disposing of the motion to print, the Senate at

House of Representatives. PUBLIC LANDS.

The SPEAKER presented the resolutions o The SPEARER presented the resolutions of the legislature of Kentucky, asking an amendment of the bounty land act of September, 1850. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Also, the resolutions of the Legislature of that State, asking a donation of public lands for educational purposes. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

FLOATING SCHOOLS.

Mr. WALLEY presented the petition of the executive of Massachusetts, and three hundred executive of Massachusetts, and three hundred and seventy others, mostly members of the legisture of that State, praying Congress, in view of the great scarcity of scamen, and the dependence of our navy upon our mercantile marine for the supply of scamen, to establish floating schools in the harbors of the country for the instruction of scamen. Referred to the Committee on Com-

merce.
Mr. FLORENCE made an ineffectual effort t have the vote of reference reconsidered, wishing the petition sent to the Committee on Naval Affairs, which, he said, has the subject under con-

CIVIL SUPERINTENDENCY.

Mr. WALLEY likewise presented a memoria from the mayor and two hundred and three other citizens of Boston, asking that the army may be confined to military duties, and that civil works of

TERRITORIAL BUSINESS-COLORS

The House resolved itself into a Committee o he Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. PHELPS in the chair, and resumed the consideration of the bill to establish the office of surveyor general of New Mexico, to grant donations to actual settlers therein, and for other purposes.

Mr. HOWE, yesterday, had moved to strike out the word "white" from the second section of the bill; so as to give lands to persons without respect

to color.

Mr. DISNEY had moved to amend the section so as to read: "That to every white male citizen

or every white male above the age of twenty-one years, who has declared his intention to become a

vote for the bill while the word "white" remains in it. He believed that every man was bound to prefer his religion above all things else, whether it be superstitious or true, false or sound. Such a preference he claimed for himself. He believed on the authority of the Saviour, in the commanto do unto others as we would have others to do to do unto others as we would have others to do unto us. This is the whole sum and substance of Christianity. If the incarnate Son of God should come among us, He would not, he believed, vote to retain this word "white." We cannot afford to be atheists; we must be men. We should be careful not to wrong our fellow-man, when a sense of revenge follows wrong. We should make the divine standard the rule of our conduct. He would have that great black man, Frederick Douglas, come into this hall, and speak on this bill. He wished that Douglas could here, in his rich, full voice, pour out the feelings of his heart. He was sure the committee, by this means, would rich, full voice, pour out the feelings of his heart. He was sure the committee, by this means, would be brought to repent of their purpose to retain the word "white." He hoped the committee would show themselves to be wise; benevolent, and true men. He could not comprehend why there should be such an insanity against color. He loved to recognise every man as his brother.

Mr. HOWE said it would be unjust to discrimi nate against color, whether of the pure Castilian or mixed races, provided the persons were citizens at the time of the treaty of Guadalupe Hi dalgo; but whether citizens or not, he was not disposed to discriminate against them. Because we deny to the colored people political equality, it does not follow that we should deny them the right to live. Such a discrimination was unworthy of the age in which we live. He understood that they are entitled to vote in some of the States of the Union. If in his power he would extend the provisions of this bill to all, without regard to color, that they might acquire homes for themselves and families.

Mr. DISNEY said it seemed to him that this

Mr. DISNEY said it seemed to him that this discussion about phraseology was a small affair. The gentleman ought to know it is not competent for Congress by any act to deprive the inhabitants of New Mexico of any rights guarantied to them by the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, because our organic law declares that treaties shall be the supreme law of the land.

Mr. HOWE was perfectly aware of that, but when, he said, we are legislating, granting lands to certain persons, it does not follow necessarily, and by implication, that the provisions of the law shall extend to all of the people.

Mr. DISNEY said that the point in controversy was merely as to phraseology. He should con-

was merely as to phrascology. He should con-tent himself with the declaration that it is not competent for a State to declare negroes citizens, within the terms of the Constitution. It may declare negroes to be citizens within its own limits, but no further. He believed with the gentleman from South Carolina [Mr. Keitt] that this is a government of white neonle, and made for white government of white people, and made for white people.
Mr. HOWE asked the gentleman whether the

bill would operate practically to exclude any per-son formerly a Mexican subject. Mr. DISNEY replied, it was intended to apply to every white citizen, under the treaty of Guade lupe Hidalgo, which is the supreme law of th

Mr. WADE said he did not know what this government has to do with the color of any man. He was not sure that he himself would be considered orthodox, were he brought down to strict church discipline. [Laughter.] He denied that the strict constructionists could find in the Contitution of the United States anything to show

hat this is a colored government.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Maine, moved an amend

Mr. WASHBURN, of Maine, moved an amendment, so as so read "white or colored." He said some of the northern States recognise black men as citizens, and therefore they should be allowed their rights in the Territories; yet the south, while claiming to take their slaves thither, would exclude that description of citizens.

Mr. KEITT said in certain sections of the country the rights of the south have been violated, and their slaves seduced from their owners under the pretence of giving them freedom; and, after doing so, those who have seduced the slaves asked for lands on which the fugitives shall settle. He further replied to the gentleman who preceded him in debate, and, in conclusion, asked the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. WADE] whether black men vote in that State and whether blacks and whites intermarry.

vote in that State and whether blacks and whites intermarry.

Mr. WADE. Just as they please about that.

Mr. KEITT. The white man who marries a black woman must be so degraded that even such a connexion will elevate him. [Laughter.]

Mr. GIDDINGS advocated an amendment which he offered, namely, proposing to give lands to those who are "not more than half white."

Mr. CAMBELL said the white people in Ohio were not in the habit of marrying black people He supposed that was pretty much a matter of taste. But he rose to put an inquiry to the gentleman from South Carolina: If the whites do not intermarry with the blacks in South Carolina; in accordance with a correct state of morals, how is it there are so many mulattoes there?

t there are so many mulattoes there?
Mr. KEITT said that in his legislative expe Mr. KEITT said that in his legislative experience, here and elsewhere, he had treated gentlemen with propriety and the utmost kindness; but when an indecent inquiry was made, he treated it as such. The member from Ohio asked him a question relative to morals. His answer to the member was, that if there are so many mulattoes in South Carolina, they have sprung from free-soilers.

soilers.
The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman is not Mr. CAMPBELL. I hope latitude will be allowed.
The CHAIRMAN. I must enforce the rules.
Mr. CAMPBELL. I should like to understand

Mr. COBB. Oh, never mind; you'll get up

fuss.

After further proceedings, the amendment o

After further proceedings, the amendment of Mr. Disney was agreed to, and the bill laid aside to be reported to the House.

The committee then took up the bill to amend the act approved September 27, 1850, to create the office of surveyor general of the public lands in Oregon, &c., and also the act amendatory thereof, approved February 19, 1853.

After debate on various amendments, the committee rose.

And the House adjourned.

Supreme Court of the United States. WEDNESDAY, May 3, 1854.

John A. Linton, esq., of Washington, D. C., and Hon. David Ritchie, and H. Hepburn, esq., of Pennsylvania, were admitted attorneys and counsellers of this court.

No. 99. Joseph Guitard et al. vs. Henry

Stoddard. The argument of this cause was continued by Mr. Williams, for the plaintiff in error, and by Mr. Reverdy Johnson, for the defendant in error, and by Mr. Geyer, for the plaintiffs in error.

Adjourned till to-morrow, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

From the Chickasaw Intelligencer

Latest from the Plains-Pursuit of the Murderer of Colonel Stem and Mr. Lepperman— Arrest and Death of Okeyot.

We are indebted to the kindness of a friend at Fort Washita for the inspection of letters from Fort Arbuckle, under date of the 19th instant, from which we compile the following details respecting the murder of Colonel and Mr. Lepperman, and the subsequent fate of one his murderers, from which it appears that Colonel Stem and Mr. Lepperman were returning home from San Antonio, by the way of Fort Belknap. Their baggage-wagon had broken a wheel about twelve miles from the fort, and they, in a carriage drawn by two mules, started ahead, expecting to reach the fort that night. At this point they were seen by two Indians, one a Kickapoo, named Sequaqua, or Polecat, and a one-eyed half-breed Hiankshaw, named Okeyot; having in company a little boy, some eleven years of age, who since has given these particulars. Polecat proposed killing Messrs. Stem and Lepperman, and ordered the boy to stay behind and "mind the packs." Okeyot fired, and the ball passed to the side of the seat of the carriage without striking. The mules then ran off, dragging the carriage about two hundred yards off the road. Colonel Stem and Mr. Lepperman then both jumped out, and being, as we suppose, unarmed, were killed by a tomahawk and a rifle—the latter used as a club. A carpet-bag, pair of saddle-bags, shotgun, and the coats and hats of the murdere en were taken by the Indians, also the mules

When the intelligence of this reached Fort Belknap, Lieutenant Tree, with a party of dragoons, was sent out to pursue the murderers. Taking with him the broken rifle, he trailed them for several hundred miles, and found it to be identified by many of a party of Wacoes under Aqua Quash, as belonging to Poleca and Okeyot, Kickapoos, having in company a boy. While on the trail, he found a boy's moccasin, confirming the testimony of the Wacoes. In consequence of heavy rains, the trail was obliterated at Red River, when Lieutenant Tree returned to Fort Belknap, and thence was ordered to Fort Arbuckle.

Upon learning of this sad outrage, Captain

Simmons sent for Beaver, the well-known Dela

ware; and, from information gained from him, was induced to believe that the murderers were in the camp of Mosqua, a Kickapoo, whose village is near Fort Arbuckle. On the morning of the 16th, a couple of the Kickapoos came in with the intelligence that Okeyot was a prisoner, and would be brought in. In the afternoon Mosqua came in, bringing with him the boy who gave the information respecting the mur-der here detailed. About an hour afterwards, intelligence arrived that the prisoner had at tempted to escape and was killed. A party was sent to look for his body, which was found pierced by a ball and cut by a tomahawk. The Kickapoos had laid in wait all night for the murderers, and towards day-break apprehended the half-breed, or "one eyed man" Okeyot, tied him and placed him on a horse to bring him to the garrison. When the party had got to the branch "on this side of Cloud's old house," the prisoner sprang from his horse and made at Johnson (a Kickapoo) with the intention of seizing his rifle and shooting him, thereby to effect his escape. But Johnson raised his rifle and shot him dead. Thus ends the career of one of them. The other, known as Morgan, Polecat, and Lequaque, is still at large, but, it is said, will certainly be taken, or killed in the attempt. This we sincerely hope for the sake of humanity and the laws.

We cannot help here remarking the care lessness of these two travellers in thus risking themselves to the accidents of travel without better weapons. That two persons should be approached and killed by an equal number, with no other weapons than a tomahawk and an unloaded rifle, is an event that should strike

every one as a strange casualty.

The Kickapoo chief, Mosqua, expresses his great gratification that Captain Simmons had not attacked his camp, and says that "no bad Kickapoo shall live in his camp, and if the whites do not hunt them up he will." Certainly his promptitude in this affair would give earnest of his honest intentions.

"Who made you?" inquired a lady teacher of a lubberly boy, who had lately joined he

"I don't know," said he.
"Don't know! You ought to be asham of yourself; a boy fourteen years old. There is little Dick Fulton; he is only three, and he can tell, dare say. Come here Dick, who made

"Dod," lisped the infant prodigy.

"There," said the teacher, triumphantly,
"I knew he would remember."

"Well, he oughter," said the stupid boy,
"'taint but a little while ago since he was

A LOVELY INCIDENT.—What parent, on reading the annexed extract, can fail to reflect on the lessons it suggests? How important that, when the parent has departed, the example left behind may be such as the child can be thankful for! To watch for and train the budding thoughts of an artless child is one of the noblest offices that father or mother can fill. Truly hath it been said that "out of the mouth of babes and sucklings" strength hath been ordained. What could give greater strength to that widowed heart than such a scene with her little daughter. scene with her little daughter.

scene with her little daughter.

She knelt, at the accustomed hour, to thank God for the mercies of the day, and pray for care through the coming night; then, as usual, came the earnest "God bless dear mother, and"—but the prayer was stilled! the little hands unclasped, and a look of agony and wonder met the mother's eye, as the words of hopeless sorrow burst from the lips of the kneeling child: "I cannot pray for father any more!" Since her little lips had been able to form the dear name, she had prayed for a blessing upon it; it had followed close after mother's name, for he had said that must come first; and now to say the familiar prayer, and leave her father out! No wonder that the new thought seemed too much for the childish mind to receive.

I waited for some moments, that she might conquer her emotion, and then urged her to go on. Her pleading eyes met mine, and, with a voice that faltered too much almost for utterance, she that faitered too much almost for utterance, she said: "O, mother, I cannot leave him all out; let me say 'thank God that I had a dear father once!" so I can still go on, and keep him in my prayers." And so she always does, and my stricken heart learned a lesson from the loving ingenuity of my child. Remember to thank God for mercies past, as well as to ask blessings for the future.

"CAPTURE" OF A RUSSIAN VESSEL .- A let ter from Waterford, published in the Tipperary
Free Press, gives the following version of the
seizure of the Russian ship Gorden:
"We have had an affair here which might

well be called 'serio-comic,' partaking in some degree of the warlike and the ridiculous. It appears that a report of a Russian merchant-vessel being seen off the coast caused our revenue-cutter, well manned and armed, to pro ceed immediately out to give a good account of her. High expectations of a rich prize cheered the hearts of our jolly and gallant tars, who, the moment they hove in sight, 'gave her a shot in the locker,' soon after boarded her, and hauled down at once the Russian flag, giving three cheers for the Queen and a stave of Britannia' in fine style. The captain of the brig quietly submitted to his conquerors, and unresistingly suffered his doomed ship to be steered in port. What a singular circumstance, that the first bloodless victory over the Autocrat of all the Russias should be thus achieved within the view of the old urbs intacta! No wonder that feelings of pride and exultation should predominate; but alas! they were only of short duration, for when the Russian captain found it convenient to make himself intelligible to his captors, they discovered to their great dis-may and disappointment that 'they had only caught a tartar,' who had cunningly the night before struck a bargain for both ship and cargo with a Waterford merchant, for a sum said to be under £3,000."—London Times, April 4.

THE COLUMBUS (OHIO) JOURNAL states that police officer was shot on the 27th ultimo, while attempting to arrest a burglar. After committing the act, the villain was pursued by two officers, but he escaped. The wounded man was still alive, but no hopes were entertained of his recovery.

WHERE SHIPS Go .- It is stated officially that as far as can be ascertained, nearly \$00 wrecks with the loss of about 870 lives occurred on he coasts and within the seas of the United Kingdom in the year 1853. In the terrible gale of January, 1854, 257 wrecks occurred, with the loss of 486 lives. In the year 1852, the total number of wrecks was 1,100, and the loss of life upwards of 900.

From the Portland Advertiser. Old Gold Mines.—There is now no longer reason to doubt the existence of gold in Maine

in Franklin county, on the tributaries of the Sandy river, and are requested to give, in a connected river, and are requested to give, in a connected form, what little we know of the matter.

Mr. William Hankerson, a returned Californian, and a gentleman of discernment, was the first discoverer of these mines. Yellow grains which he found among the sands of the castern branch of Sandy river, in Madrid, he at once pronounced to be gold of a superior quality. This we believe was in the summer of 1852. He commenced prospecting. With what result is to be inferred from the fact that he shortly after purchased a strip of land on the eastern branch. During last season, with what hands he could procure, he worked a portion of this, and took therefrom, it is said, seven hundred dollars worth of ore. A boarding-house was erected on the ground for the accommodation of workmen. This year, we learn, that he is to reof workmen. This year, we learn, that he is to re-sume operations with all the hands he can pro-

cure, sanguine of the largest success.

The discoveries of the eastern branch led to prospecting in adjoining sections. Gold was also discovered in the town of Salem, on another tributary of the Sandy river; and infinitesimal particles of the precious metal are found below, along the

Ravages of the Teredo .- There was a vessel Ravages of the Teredo.—There was a vessel hauled on one of our railways, last week which exhibited a curious specimen of the destructive nature of the Teredo, or ship borer. Schooner Sarah Jane, built in Marblehead only about two years ago, was laid up in one of the Beverly docks the succeeding winter, and in Salem during the last. The keel was made a complete honey-comb comb, and had to be entirely removed, as well as several of the planks. Some of the worms, several inches long, were found in the cavities which they had bored. There was scarcely a foot of the keel that would sustain its own weight. The vessel is now upon the lower railway, and it is worth any body's while to take a look at the thoroughly bored fragments of the keel.

[Salem Gaz.

Fatal Accident.—Ellen S. Hawks, only child of Mr. Hilkiah Hawks, of Greenfield, was so badly injured by hot maple syrup, on Thursday the 15th, that she died on the following Saturday. She was residing at her grandfather's (Mr. Samuel Fisk's) in Shelburne. Two of Mr. Fisk's sons were engaged in putting a boiler of hot syrup on the stove, near which the child was sitting on a blanket on the floor, when one of the handles of the boiler gave way, spilling most of the syrup on the floor, a portion of which ran on to the feet and lower part of the limbs of the child.

[Greenfield (Mass.) Gazette. Fatal Accident.-Ellen S. Hawks, only child

ID Two young ladies of Lawrence, Massachusetts, Emily A. Lake and Augusta H. Ramsdell, who had given themselves somewhat to spiritual rappings, thought it would be a pretty idea to take a trip to the spirit land in company, and accordingly, one day last week, they partook freely of laudanum, as a help to their journey. Miss Lake died from the effects of the poison; but Miss Ramsdell, disturbed by the groans of her feilow-sufferer, awoke and vomited up what she had taken, fully cured of the delusion under which she had labored. This case proves the danger of empty-headed young ladies attempting to entertain an idea.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

FROM UNITED STATES.	
Ships. Leaves. For. Date.	ă
Ships. Leaves. For. Date.	2
	5
	5
	5
	6
Glasgow New York Glasgow May 1	0
Black Warrior New York Havana May 1	0
Arabia Boston Liverpool May 1	0
Pacific New York Liverpool May 1	3
Africa New York Liverpool May 1	7
Canada Boston Liverpool May 2	4
FROM EUROPE.	
Pacific Liverpool New York April 1	9
AfricaLiverpool New York April 2	
Washington Bremen New York April 2	
Canada Liverpool Boston April 2	20
Atlantic New York Liverpool May	20.7